

**Claims**

1. A method for treating or preventing hot flashes in a patient in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective dose of a compound selected from reboxetine or S,S-reboxetine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a derivative thereof, or a prodrug thereof to the patient.  
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2. A method of claim 1, wherein the patient is female.
3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hot flashes are menopause or postmenopause symptoms.
4. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hot flashes are due to medical  
10 treatment.
5. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hot flashes are caused by radiation therapy.
6. A method according to claim 2, wherein the hot flashes are drug-induced.
7. A method according to claim 2, wherein the patient is receiving anti-estrogen  
15 therapy.
8. A method according to claim 2, wherein the patient is suffering from or has suffered from cancer.
9. A method according to claim 5, wherein the cancer is breast cancer.
10. A method according to claim 1, wherein the patient is male.
- 20 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein the hot flashes are caused by radiation therapy.
12. A method according to claim 10, wherein the hot flashes are drug-induced.
13. A method according to claim 10, wherein the patient has androgen deprivation.
14. A method according to claim 10, wherein the patient is suffering from or has  
25 suffered from cancer.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein the cancer is prostate cancer or testicular cancer.
16. The method according to claim 1, wherein the reboxetine dose range is 4 to 10 mg per patient per day.
- 5 17. The method according to claim 1, wherein the reboxetine dose range is 6 to 8 mg per patient per day.
18. The method according to claim 1, wherein the compound is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition additionally comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
- 10 19. The use of a compound selected from reboxetine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, a derivative thereof, or a prodrug thereof for the manufacture of a medicament to treat or prevent hot flashes.
20. The use according to claim 19, wherein the reboxetine dose range is 4 to 10 mg per patient per day.
- 15 21. The use according to claim 19, wherein the reboxetine dose range is 6 to 8 mg per patient per day.
22. A method for treating or preventing symptoms of hormonal variation in a patient suffering therefrom comprising administering a therapeutically effective dose of a compound selected from reboxetine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, a derivative thereof, or a prodrug thereof to the patient.
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